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# Joy and Health

by Martellius





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JOY AND HEALTH.







FÉE GORGE, SAAS FÉE.

*(From Negative by the late Mr. W. F. Donkin. Published by G. Wm. Spooner & Co., 379, Strand.)*



# JOY AND HEALTH.

BY

MARTELLIUS.



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## DEDICATION.



ALL that is passed is pardoned ; all we did  
Has drifted far on the great love of Him  
Who made our life this love in love, and hid  
Our union in Himself. Old sins grow dim,  
Old mercies shrouding them ; and from the deep  
The voices of sad memories rise and sweep  
Up, up to Heaven's blue, and there are lost  
Amid the shinings of the steadfast host  
Of lightfull worlds that sparkle round the Light,  
Telling He comes, the Day-star of our night,  
Who into morn turns death's dull shadow surely,  
And being in Himself all pure works purely  
Through all the night-shades where we weave our life,  
For night and day are His.

And His the strife  
We two are set apart for. Star and Star  
Differ in glory, differ in their task,  
But though great oceans roll between us far,  
In one our lights He mingles ; and I ask  
For this one gift, that you and I may tread  
The lands of dying ones with Him, and rise  
With Him together from among the dead,  
With Him rejoice upon the golden shore,  
Nor ever be apart in any wise,  
In seen and unseen one for evermore.



I WALKED upon the beach alone,  
And watched the summer sea,  
As, with one low unceasing moan,  
It crept up quietly.

No human hand could stay the course  
Of that approaching sea ;  
Still silently, without remorse,  
It crept up quietly.

So Death, like Ocean, none withstands,  
And none can from him flee ;  
For still, with his all-grasping hands,  
He creeps up quietly.





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JOY AND HEALTH.









## JOY AND HEALTH.

---

To the Memory of my Mother in Heaven.


To the Love of my Mother on Earth.

CHRISTMAS, 1885.

---

“GOD MOVES IN A MYSTERIOUS WAY.”

---

OD took thee, Mother, ere my heart could feel  
The pang of parting, ere my lips could lisp  
At thy dear knees in daily prayer, or show  
To thee my baby troubles—it was well.  
Thou wast too fair, too holy for this earth,  
Thy work was done, thy talents nobly used—  
And thus God took thee: and thy babe was left  
Without a mother's shield to face the world.  
Gladly hadst thou delayed a little more  
Amid the cares and pains of life, to hold  
My trusting hand and guide my tottering feet.

And point my infant faith through thee to Heaven.  
But God denied it, and the parting came ;  
The mother joined the glorious saints of light  
Amid the joys of Paradise : the child  
Was left, to toil more painfully along  
The path she trod before him, and to track  
Through all the gloom of wickedness and woe  
The star of her pure holiness.

But God

In His great love had mercy : ere the grave  
Made me entirely orphan, warmed my heart  
To call another " Mother," who has wrapped  
That heart to hers as close as earthly ties  
Can link two hearts together. Wondrous love !  
That God who made the mighty universe,  
Whose mind embraces all that ever was  
And all that shall be, Who pervadeth all  
With His mysterious presence—that this God  
All-great, all-powerful, all in all, should stoop  
In His imperial wisdom to provide  
Some limit to the troubles of a heart  
So young and so distressed, that yearned for one  
To see its little pains, and bear the load  
Of little crimes confessed—a woman's love  
To cherish, and a woman's arm to guide !

And God bestowed the want ; another came  
To fill the place of her I only knew  
In shadowy visions of the night, when oft  
I'd seem to see an heavenly radiant form  
Draw near my cot where I had cried to sleep,  
And then I seemed to know her to be mine,  
“ My own, own Mother ! ” . . .

Now, with vague delight  
Mixed with a childish fear of something new,  
I learned to call this other Mother mine,  
And in her tenderness my heart found rest  
And drank the strangeness of its new-found joy,  
And nestled to her. Many noble works  
By woman's love are done, but none more blest  
Than hers who found me longing for a heart  
To sympathise with mine, and gave it all.  
My God, I thank Thee for that Thou hast given  
To me two Mothers—one to honour here,  
To love and cherish as she cherished me :  
The other to be ever in my heart  
A guiding radiance. Give me grace, O God !  
So in my life to live as ne'er to bring  
A flush of shame for me upon the brow  
Of this my present Mother : in my death  
So to die godly, as to cleave the air

Swift to the gates of gold, and 'mid the throng  
Of those that bid me welcome hear one cry  
Clearly and sweetly ringing o'er the rest,  
The Mother's cry of "Welcome!" to her son.





## Unselfishness.

**M**ARCHED are all the mountain meadows,  
Dried is every mountain stream :  
Short the dews and hot the breezes,  
Shines the sun with scorching beam.

But e'en yet a tiny streamlet  
Trickles faintly down the mead ;  
Though hard pressed for life, it never  
'Turns aside from others' need.

Drooping harebells, stately foxgloves,  
Rising 'mid the withering grass,  
Bless the stream ; their thirsty blossoms  
Kiss its waters as they pass.

Fainter, fainter grows its murmur,  
Still it throws its precious showers ;  
Scarce its tiny strength suffices,  
Still it feeds the dying flowers.

See, 'tis saved ; the longed-for breezes  
Bring the cooling rain at length ;  
And the streamlet laughs, its ripples  
Glittering in their new-found strength.





## Sunday.

THIS Sunday morning ; stillness reigns around,  
Sweet hallowing stillness—while the songsters' lay  
Mars not, but makes more perfect with its sound  
The holy quiet of the Saviour's day.

No clouds obscure the azure of the sky,  
Scarce the soft breezes stir the rustling trees ;  
In pleasant mead the lazy cattle lie,  
And drink the fulness of forgetful ease.

But, hark ! far down in yonder peaceful vale,  
Where 'mid the verdure peeps the village fane,  
Now sinking low, now borne on gentle gale,  
In grander measures swells the sweet refrain.

Yes, God is love ; the smiling earth below,  
The sunlit glories of the sky above,  
All Nature's thousand beauties do but show  
Their Maker's vast immeasurable love.



## Evening on the Shore.

THE golden sun has set, and shadowy night  
Creeps with its curtain o'er the western light,  
And hardly twinkling gleams the early star  
O'er the great Ocean, that beneath it far  
Murmurs, as courting rest ; and far away,  
From fishers singing on their homeward way,  
Comes the low sound of voices soft and clear  
That mingles in the silence of the air  
With measured plash of oars—a perfect calm  
Broods over all, and steals the holy charm  
Of soothing quiet o'er the troubled mind,  
And fills the soul with gladness undefined,  
With some dim thoughts of God, some flutt'ring flight  
Of the tired spirit to the realms of light,  
Some glimmering hope of Heaven, ere again  
It face the conflicts of the world of pain.







“It is the Lord that Made the Heavens.”

**D**OUBT? Dost thou doubt? Look upward to the sky,  
Scan those unutterable depths, and watch  
The message-fires of never-counted worlds,  
Worlds beyond worlds, yet fitting each with each,  
Immeasurable distances between,  
In harmony all perfect. Know thine earth  
As but a myriadth of the multitudes  
That pass, repass, amid the ordered maze  
Of space unlimited. There is no end,  
No end to space, as there is none to time,  
No spot where nothing is—and what art thou?  
What but a puny being of an earth  
Itself but puny? Yet thou hast been blest  
Far above other earth-inhabitants,  
Thou and thy fellows with a living soul.  
And hast thou used this costly gift so ill  
As to have doubts? To doubt that there is One,

One that hath framed existence, One that is  
Existence in Himself, Who ruleth all?  
Thou that art certain that there is a world,  
A space, an universe, a life, an "Is,"  
Darest thou doubt that there is One to work,  
To mould the Infinite to do His will?  
Darest thou doubt? No longer. Hast thou dared?  
Aye, fall upon thy knees, and pledge thy soul,  
An offering of thanks for evermore  
To Him that is for ever everywhere,  
For that He spared thee, He, the All-in-all,  
Thee a poor speck upon His handiwork,  
When thou didst doubt His being. And look up,  
Look up again to yonder starlit sky,  
And own with trembling that there is a God.





## To One of the Little Sufferers.

I WANT to help you bear it, for I know it's hard to bear,  
To see the others playing while you are lying there :  
And I know the pain is awful and the days are very long,  
And perhaps you're sometimes thinking, "I've been doing nothing  
wrong,  
That I should have the weariness—the restlessness and pain ;"  
Or perhaps to try and bear it seems to you to be in vain.  
Well, listen, while I tell you how 'tis given you in love,  
All this pain and weary watching, by the God of Heaven above.  
Yes, *I* know, but there's another Who knows better far than I  
All your pains and all your sorrows—God who made the earth and  
sky ;  
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, He alone can really share  
Grief like yours and really comfort, He alone can take the care  
And relieve you of the burden—

Let Him help you bear it now !

For remember how the thorn-crown once has pierced His bleeding  
brow,

How He stood alone despised 'mid the scoffing soldier bands,  
How His back was torn with scourges, how they smote Him with  
their hands,

How He passed like felon guarded sadly through the city gate,  
How His cross he had to carry till He fell beneath its weight.

Then, remember, how they nailed Him—nails through both His  
hands and feet—

Raised Him on the Cross, deserted ; not one hand stretched out  
to greet,

Not one voice upraised to save Him. You have friends to help  
you bear,—

He had none to help Him bear it hanging in His torment there.

Six long hours He hung in torment, torment we can never know :

There was none to bathe His forehead in His agony of woe ;

Six long hours, then bowed His head and yielded up His mortal  
breath,

He for you, for me, for all men, stooped to die a cruel death.

Yes, for you He died : but triumphed o'er the bondage of the  
grave ;

Now He lives for you, and ever He is standing nigh to save.

With His wondrous love He loves you, and is ready to receive

All who come to Him for comfort. So I want you not to grieve,

But to bear your little pain for Him who bore to die for you.

Pray to Jesus : He will give you patience that will take you  
through.



## A Psalm of Thanksgiving.

**J**ESUS, upon the threshold Thou hast stayed me,  
Upon the threshold of eventful life ;  
My soul has heard Thy tender voice behind me :  
“ Come rest a little, ere thou face the strife.”

My heart was beating wildly for the conflict,  
My hands were clenching, and my eye looked on ;  
I felt Thine hand upon me, and I murmured :  
Jesus, the day of murmuring is gone.

Pain came and sickness, and I grew discouraged,  
And shadows seemed to close around my life ;  
And pain increased, and, oh ! my heart was broken—  
Deep was the cutting of Thy healing knife.

Then I was torn through days of weary blackness  
By restless clamours of a troubled brain ;  
Chastened, forgetful of Thy chastening goodness :  
Till in my weakness I found strength again.

Yes, strength with Thee ; Thy sword went home one evening,

The Spirit's sword, Thy wondrous word of life—

I thank Thee, Father, for Thy tender scourging,

And Thee, Physician, for Thy healing knife.

Now I am resting, Jesus. May Thy tonic

Be working in my soul, and be Thou near :

To me, as Thine to Thee, my life make nothing,

As mine to Thee, Thy life make wholly dear.

So when my soul is truly convalescent,

Thou shalt pass with me to the field of life ;

And at my side Thy gentle voice shall cheer me :

“Child, thou art rested ; let us face the strife.”





### Sufficient for Thee.

CHRIST was once offered ; O weak one, believe it ;  
Stronger than all that thou art is the foe ;  
God gives salvation, if thou wilt receive it,  
Safety for thee, though thy fortress lies low.

Proudly 'twas raised with thy brave resolution  
Steadfast to stand in thine own might alone ;  
Outside was ambush, within revolution,  
Sudden the whirlwind—thy tower was o'erthrown.

Ah, thou hast struggled ; I know it, poor brother :  
Struggled with numbers too great for thy strength ;  
Struggle no longer ! Look up to Another :  
Give up thy weariness : turn thee at length.

Turn thee. I pray that God's Spirit's wise guiding  
Now may lead thee to submit to His love ;

Low thou art now, and still lower art sliding—  
But to the depths came the Lord from above.

Listen : thy self is the god thou hast followed,  
Self's were thy duties, and self's was thy life ;  
All thy life's good has thy self-fulness swallowed,  
Conquering still, though with conscience at strife.

We have turned, every one—in the Scripture 'tis written—  
To his own way, the way that his wisdom thought best ;  
Read the passage : it tells how a Servant was smitten,  
How One was chastised to bring many to rest.

God says self is sinful and death is sin's wages,  
Death in sin for the sinner. Poor soul, is it thou ?  
Will thy sin conquer sin, though thou struggle for ages ?  
O where is thy boasting self-confidence now ?

There stood a cross, and on it hung a Man  
Six hours in agony before He died :  
From nail-pierced hands and feet the life-blood ran :  
The Son of God in mortal anguish cried :  
“ My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken Me ? ”  
. . . God give thee eyes to see  
That was for thee.



He died : a death for sinners : then for thee ;  
He rose, He lives : a life for sinners : then for thee.

O come to Jesus knowing thou art lost ;  
Plead just His blood, the price thy sin has cost ;  
Ask Him to hear thee, and believe  
Those whom He gave His life to save  
He does receive.





**“Cast thy burden on the Lord, and He shall  
sustain thee.”**

**I** WILL not struggle ; Lord, I lean on Thee  
With all my unknown being : take me now ;  
I cannot spell the riddle, read Thou me :  
Healing me first, then whisper me the How.

Ah, 'tis no mite I ask for ; 'tis the store  
Which Jesus offers from the throne above ;  
Down at Thy feet my hungry will I pour,  
To overflowing fill me with Thy love.

O stint not, gracious Saviour ! Lo, I plead  
The price that bought me—agony and woe :  
The sacrifice sufficient for my need :  
Thy blood, my Saviour, when I was Thy foe.

Almighty love, it asks for room to live,  
O Saviour, asks of me. Behold Thy slave !  
Thy love constrains me ; now my all I give,  
Work out the glory that my ransom gave.

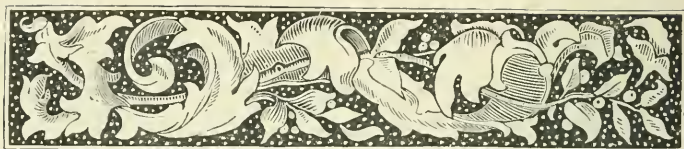
I am so helpless ! God omnipotent,  
To Thee I cry. Thou knowest all the way  
This poor man went beforetime : I repent  
Of all my goings ; help me while I pray.

It is not right, 'tis not the perfect life,  
There still is warfare, still the law of sin ;  
O Jesu, now, a moment in the strife,  
I hear Thee knocking : enter, enter in !

Come in, most welcome ! Lo, I fling the door  
Back as Thou givest strength ; behold the will  
Which mercy gives me ! Ever more and more,  
Sweet Saviour, fill me, and be filling still.

The Christ in me ; I claim the promised Word  
In all its depths unfathomable—Come,  
Come Thou Thyself ; Thine ears my prayer have heard :  
Carry me gently upwards to my Home !





## “It is the Lord.”



ROUND us the mist of the millions floating, floating ;  
Eternity's deafening dread,  
The living and the dead,  
The speeding and the sped,  
Worlds the passing of worlds into worlds ever noting :  
The dust of the past,  
The flowers of to-day in the dust of the past—  
Here, now, at last,  
The lot for you and me is cast.

. . . . .

Yes, my own, 'tis bewildering, giddy for thinking,

This peak 'twixt the chasms of Past and To-morrow :  
Your head on my breast, Love, the while we are drinking  
The pure stream of joy 'mid the whirlpool of sorrow :  
Your hand in my hand, your lips pressed to mine,  
Our souls linked for ever . . . come whispers divine.

“My little ones, hearken ; the bounds of the earth  
With their oceans and isles part the lands of your birth ;

Yet I led you, and fed with the bread of affliction

To wed you

Each unto each at the time of My choosing.

How often, refusing

To see it was I that led

All through the wilderness,

Wounded your hearts have bled

By your own foolishness : the which

Thoroughly to purge away

Died on the doomful day

He who now speaks to you,

The Living and the True.

So, surely I prepared,

Nourished and shared

All ye would trust Me with, and cared

For thee . . . And thee—

Ah, when you came to Me,

My heart of sorrows throbbed,

While ye lay low and sobbed

Over your sin ;

I took you in,

Pardoned, and set you free.

"Now, this great happiness

Freely to you I give, that ye may bless

My holy Name in holy humble life ;

“Up, take your places in the strife :  
Up, shine, your light is come :  
The glory of the Lord  
Is risen upon you—  
Shine within the home,  
Shed forth the rays abroad.  
Tell them ‘Trust Jesus :’ let your lowly love  
Teach something of the infinite above ;  
For prayer and praise thee unto thee I give :  
My name is JESUS : in Me love and live.”





## With Christ in God.

**T**HE life, the life with Christ : O Spirit, aid me  
To speak for God the fulness of my heart ;  
See, for Thy use I am, as Thou hast made me,  
To tell to doubting ones how good Thou art.

What is the life? A little lighter sorrow?  
A happiness that's fleeting, and may cease?  
No ; gone past sorrow, leave with Him to-morrow :  
Live now for Jesus in His perfect peace.

“ Follow thou Me through pain and tribulation,  
The world will hate thee, as it hated Me ;  
Be not afraid : at hand is My salvation :  
The King in all His beauty is for thee.

“ Rejoice, O man, I died for ! never, never  
Shall aught created wrest thee from My love !  
Toil in the strength I give thee : then for ever  
Serve face to face within the veil above.

“Around thee and within thee is the evil :  
    Around thee and within thee is the sin ;  
But by a prayer thou canst resist the devil :  
    Where Jesus dwells, there Satan comes not in.

“And, oh, remember thou the opened fountain,  
    My blood that bought thee, filling all thy need ;  
Have faith, and, lo, thy sudden sin-raised mountain  
    Obeys, God’s ocean hides it, thou art freed.

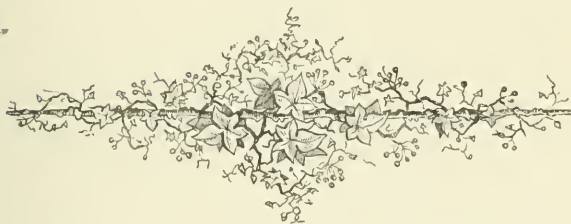
“And ever with thee doth abide the Spirit,  
    To warn thee and to cheer thee in the way ;  
Take of My things, and show to thee their merit,  
    Glow of Our Father’s presence day by day.

“Yea, God is with thee : nearest consolation—  
    Far nearer than the shadows of the foe—  
Abide with Me and I with thee : thy station  
    As high with Me, as with thee Mine is low.

“Be in Me first, then bring to Me the sorrow,  
    The sorrow of the moment as it flies ;  
Take of My joy, and men will gladly borrow  
    Some of that sunshine welling in thine eyes.



"This is the life I offer, freely given,  
Unstintingly abundant, to o'erflow  
Above sin's darkness with the light of Heaven,  
Till, as I know thee, Jesus thou shalt know."





## In Love for Life.

“**F**OR life,” my darling ! This shall be  
Our hope, our anchor in the rock :  
Love in God’s love, then safely we  
Shall ride the storms and brave the shock  
Of earth’s tumultuous tribes that mock  
The melody of Jesus. . . . Come  
Into His inner sanctuary, the home  
Made ready and prepared.  
Already we have shared  
The sweetest of the wines of this world’s cup ;  
Now, journey up  
Swifter than eagle’s wing to God, and sup  
On angels’ everlasting food,  
God’s own eternity of good.  
The shadow of the Highest rest  
On us, my girlie ! His behest

Be not a duty, but our life :  
So shall you live a Christian's wife,  
So shall we take each other for the best.

Jesus, now make our love a shrine  
For Thine own presence : do Thou shine  
With Thy full mercy in my dear wife's face ;  
May she drink always deeper of Thy grace,  
And may her godliness awaken mine !

Grant that we both may stand  
Ready at Thy command,  
Slaves at our King's right hand :

Zealous to trace  
In the least impulse of the eye  
Thine 'Who will go for Us?'  
With " Here am I !"  
'Trembling upon our tongue.

Then shall Thy praise be sung  
By our life-harps attuned by love to Thee  
In love for one another. So shall rise  
Eternal Hallelujahs, till the skies  
Shall catch the strain,  
Which, multiplied, again,  
And yet again returns,

Till echoing universes ring  
In Hallelujah triumph, and the eyes  
Of God's unnumbered hosts in glad surprise  
Watch where two saved ones serve their Lord and King.





“Even the Winds and the Sea.”



WHY am I not at rest ?

Rest . . . as yon weary child  
Pillowed his head on his mother's breast,  
Hush'd by the peace she smiled.

Why ? why ?

I am tossing and turning,  
My brain is burning,  
And all my being sends up the cry,

Why ?

“Here, my child, thou wilt find thy rest,  
Clasped in strong arms to a Saviour's breast ;

Only be Mine, and I am thine ;  
If thou wouldest, be always blest.

“My child, I have hearkened the while thou hast cried ;  
Now hearken to Me : 'twas to rest thee I died.”



## After the Night the Morning.

HERE is a whirlwind, where the mind is carried  
Around, above, beneath, in endless chaos,  
Thought 'whelming thought ; and men do drift upon it,  
Their lives a scene of havoc, where the evil  
Half knows its conquering good, but half denies it.  
The world is full, and vanity would drink it,  
Using time's goblet only, crying ever,  
“ What ? ” “ Why ? ” and “ Whither ? ”

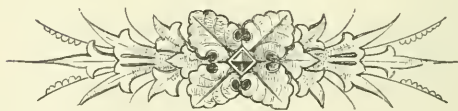
Upward through the ages  
The graven stones of old-time manhood tell us—  
And downward through the ages dim extending  
Whose torch is lit within us, rise the questions  
From man that passes in the darkness earthwards,  
Yet thinks he feels the dawn that lights the heaven,  
Though dying e'er the sunrise. O ye millions,  
Born not as yet to earth's perplexing riddles,  
For you I write it ; and there be among you  
Thousands with thoughts like mine—thoughts that could swamp you

In their mad fierceness. Is there not a centre  
To every wild tornado o'er the ocean,  
Driving the tossing ship, wild as the conflict  
Your heart is feeling, mine has felt? O hear me!  
I battled, and I struggled, and I sank:

The darkness of damnation closed about me—  
That is damnation where the soul sees nothing  
But darksome nothingness, and curses all things  
With the great curse of curses: "God is evil.  
I love and could love wholly; God has made me,  
God loves me not. There are whom He created  
Whom their Creator damns from everlasting  
To everlasting: mingling with time's beauties  
The beauties of the ocean and the meadows,  
The beauties of the mountain and the rivers,  
The beauties of the cities and His temples  
The horrors of His hell" . . . .

Does the Book say so? Words there are within it  
That seem to say so; but be wholly honest,  
Go take the Book and read upon the hill-top,  
Where 'mid the heather you can feel the sunshine,  
Read it as for your life—not good men's essays,  
Not paraphrase of sages, but God's Scripture  
Written for you. Shut out all else about you,  
Give yourself wholly to it, weigh it deeply,

From the first page to the last page peruse it—  
Shut out all else : and God, as you shall find Him,  
Will open all again, and in the twilight  
Shall stand by you the One whom now you know not,  
As He has stood by me : the Man perfected,  
The Incarnate God, the Father of the ages,  
For Whose appearing all creation travails—  
And ye shall give Him back the trouble-tangles,  
And He shall answer : “ Living learn to love Me,  
Be patient till I come.”







## On the Threshold of Winter.

LOUDY the day dawned, and dreariness lingers  
Over the city,  
The icy king's harbingers everywhere laying their fingers,  
Knowing no pity,  
On the last leaves of poor Autumn, which shrill winds have driven  
Shrivelled and dead to the ground—  
Sunless and comfortless winter possessing our heaven  
Soon on our earth will be gath'ring its frost-demons round.

Easy for us, dear, with Home and its treasures  
Scaring heart-failing :  
Hard, dear, for the poor in the streets with no share in such pleasures,  
Puny and ailing  
Children and women and men, thinly-clad and not able  
Sitting at home to dream dreams :  
Bound to be always at work, while strength lasts : from our table  
Earning some crumbs, not enough. To them winter is what it seems.

What can we do ? In your heart is much treasure,  
Open its portals :  
See what the King has bestowed there to feed without measure  
Suffering mortals :  
And to our spirits His Spirit has spoken : " Ye perish,  
Or think of others and live !  
Sunshine and happiness, loved ones to love and to cherish,  
I gave to you on condition you learn how to give."

God marks our giving, but scans more minutely  
Motives of giving :  
God loves the man who must give, although mutely,  
Always while living :  
Even in breathing feels impulse to help all the stricken,  
Acts on the impulse and gives :  
Gives where he can, when he can, with all wisdom, is careful to  
quicken  
All whom he loves to give too unto God—this man lives.

Pounds, shillings, pence ? Better thank Him who freed you,  
Christ our Salvation,  
Then, with your life in His, trust Him to speed you,  
Deal consolation :  
Just in those ways which He shows you give all your resources,  
And you shall find at the end

Truly with you against want, sin, and death have the stars in their  
courses

Conquered in fight; and our loving Lord Jesus will claim you  
His friend.





“If the Lord do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest  
any hurt it, I will keep it night and day.”

**T**O trust Thee now, to go on uncomplaining,  
Not choosing, but receiving what Thy love will give,  
Self overthrown, Thyself within me reigning—  
This, Jesus, is the life that I would live.

Faith is not weakness struggling to grow stronger,  
Not building shadow-castles in the crumbling dust:  
Trust in myself I dare not any longer:  
Do Thou each moment teach me how to trust.

O for true faith! helpless and heavy leaning  
Careless of aught beside upon my Jesus' breast:  
Untroubled, undistraught, waiting His meaning,  
Knowing His love works all things for my best.

Thou sayest “Come!” to all the sorrow-stricken:  
I come, Thou God Eternal, at Thy feet I fall—  
Thine to do battle, Thine the heart to quicken,  
Mine to go onward, trusting Thee for all.



14th January, 1892.

(ACCEPTED BY H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.)

THEY have crowned him there : with the wreath for a life's  
intent

Summoned and found in deed ; and across the echoing years

Comes the grand voice that binds two lives and names :

“ Albert the Good ! ” Ay, let your memories float,

Ye English hearts, adown the glorious lines :

“ Wearing the white flower of a blameless life ”—

So shall his country mourn him.

But, dead Sir,

As subject to liege-lord, as man to man,

I call thee through the darkness. Yea, my Prince,

My King who art not, thy bequest to me

Is “ Follow with a life of faithful work,

Reach out thy manliness to touch the good ! ”

Lead, Prince, I follow.





## First Primroses.

**S**O quietly the whole earth waits for life.  
The dry winds of the winter's end are spent  
Not yet wild violets woo the first of showers,  
But every hedgerow is in touch with hope,  
And some already have their primroses,  
And all the meadows sport with dainty lambs:  
Cold wars with sunshine, but the sun will win,  
And heaven's larks are jubilant with song.

O hearts of men, take courage ! Waits the world  
Refreshment deeper still than sweetest rain ?  
Is winter long ? Are there few early flowers ?  
Frosts hold the nights, and fierce winds wound the day ?  
Have but a little patience. There was once  
A burst of summer long ago ; they say  
The sun shone warmly, and the showers were kind,  
Spring-flowers arose of holy happiness—  
That was in Galilee, and long ago.

But breathes the One wise Spirit, who has bidden  
The primroses acquaint us "Winter's dead":  
Winter is dead, dead for the eyes that see  
All the wide landscape quivering with life  
That only waits, and waiting gathers more,  
More in its myriad marvels: till awake  
Full summer's symphony at last to tell  
In trembling concentration of her tones:  
"Winter prepared the beauties of my flowers;  
The waiting-time was good."





## Denique.

**H**RAPPED in the strength of his youth and the shadow of  
knowledge,  
Strong with the pulses of life at their fulness,  
Communing deep with the thought,  
Silently growing the thought of the day's death,  
Risen one star amid lingering kisses of sunlight :  
Silently rose the man's spirit.

“ Ah, could I grasp it and here make it mine to go with me,  
Mystery moment of hope undefinèd,  
Tryst-time of sunset and star !  
Goodness of life that has worked and will slumber,  
Goodness of sleep that will nourish the life of the morning,  
Breathing new good on my powers ! ”

Came then in answer the south-wind and fell on the moorland  
Sweeping from heather-decked grasses low music  
Floating in marvellous hush ;



And as he listened the air breathed creation,  
Myriads passing to life in the sweet summer stillness,  
Myriads passing to slumber.

“Brain that conceives it, mouth than can speak it, hands that can  
work !

Man made for more than for dreams of his purpose !

May I not find the full strength ?

Perfect in manliness, furnished with all things,

May I not smite with the arm of a man at the evil,

Knowing the end of my being ?

“Watching that hour when the gates shall crash to on my prowess,  
Leaving me naked without, but behind them

Men moving still as I moved ;

Then shall they study and see that the dead one

Did this and this and had sense in his doing, with wonder

Soon to be lost and forgotten.

“Only one order of men have I known who are thorough,  
Brooking no hindrances, bent on succeeding,

Utterly one with their work ;

Such as they are they will be and will follow

Ever the scheme of their lives as themselves have resolved it

Unto its latest fulfilment.

“Almost I envy them now, for they know where their paths lie,  
Crushing the mightiest will that opposes,

Miring all earth with their feet :

Riding the flood of disease to the war-field

Under the wings of the terrible legions of sorrow,

Heralding kingdoms of evil.

“Surely their wisdom has grappled with wisdom of virtue,

Killed at the birth every law-loving instinct,

Chosen a banquet of lies :

Turned from dim visions of truth to seen pleasures,

Answered one ‘No’ to the call of clear reason within them,

Sold every good to enjoyment.

“Therefore the world-woes rise up and salute them as princes,

Therefore the riches of malice are with them,

Therefore the curse is their drink ;

Weakness to them is as reeds to be trampled,

Beauty as flowers to be cast in the furnace of madness

Lighting the halls of their revel.

“But from their realm even once and again has arisen

Chorus of hell-hounds in chase of a captive

Springing through darkness to light,

Outstretching hands that are blood-stained and bleeding,

Faint as a perishing infant for water of mercy,

Straining wild eyes to the sunlight.

“Better his case than the white-robed and easy contentment  
Touched by no earth-stain, reclining in temples,

Dreaming election and grace :

Safe with word-lures of salvation eternal,

Proud in sweet meekness and sounding humility's trumpet,

‘Sure that the truth is their reading.

“Better his case than to live in a garden of letters,

Losing all self in the wise man's discourses,

All the life used in the brain ;

Better to climb through the dark than to mildew

Rotting or rusting in beautiful chambers of plenty

Whether of mind or of spirit.

“Surely the glory of man is to work and work upwards,

Not for toil's sake, but for something beyond it,

Till his day yield unto night ;

Yet shall the issue be wholly uncertain,

Yet must his hands clench on dangers not known or expected,

Yet may the sun set in tempest.

“Only for me as I ponder the flickering starlight

Flashes a message unspeakably brilliant

Kindled by myriad fires ;

Endless and limitless oceans of silence

Decked with great lights shining each in its order

Tell me the end of my being.

“For from those numberless worlds in their infinite distance  
Comes unto us the clear star-spangled Heaven,

Sign of a limitless love ;

Infinite wisdom from infinite treasures

Fashions a mirror of peace for the toil-stricken mortal—

Stars of sweet hope in thick darkness.

“See now the night is upon us, and gone is the spell of the  
sunset,

Only one wee rosy cloud lingers westward,

All too fast fading away—

Hail to thee, Holiest Night ! in thy silence

Soothing the sense and unravelling quests which the day brought,

Handmaid of happy contentment !

“Into thy shades I may step feeling angels around me,

Winds gently lifting the slumbering blossoms,

All the trees sighing above ;—

Wonderful stillness ! more wonderful whisper !

Gardens and moorland and forest-clad hills are a-tremble,

And my heart trembles to hear it.

“Tremblings arise that are born of no fear but of impulse

Pent and confined, but to rush as the river

Breaking a glacier's grip—

These have no speech save the shudder that warns me  
‘Hold not thy peace ! stand alone and confess to the glory !  
Worship our God in the spirit !’ ”

Up through the warm summer air the great voice of the man’s  
song,  
Deep, firm, and full in the praise of the Father,  
Carried its burthen of joy ;  
Cared not who heard it, the song of his spirit  
Mounting to worship the Spirit of life and of manhood  
Veiled in the visible glory.



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